REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Independent Claims 1, 13 and 22 have been amended. Claim 20 has been canceled. Claims 4-7, 10-12, 14, 16 and 23-33 have been withdrawn by the Examiner as being drawn to non-elected subject matter. Claims 34-36 have been added.

Claims 1-3, 13, 15, 17, 18, 20 and 22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Peeters et al. (WO 94/00132). Claims 1-3, 8, 9, 13, 15 and 17-22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Peeters et al. in view of Howard et al. (GB 2 280 110). According to the Office Action, Peeters et al. discloses the treatment of Alzheimer's disease with guanosine and precursors and/or derivatives thereof, including xanthosine, as well as guanine, inosine, xanthine, hypoxanthine, 5' inosinic acid, and mono-, di- and triphosphates of guanosine. The Office Action notes that Peeters et al. discloses that xanthosine should be administrated at dosages of from 20 mg/kg/day to 150 mg/kg/day. The Office Action states that, assuming a 50 kg person, this dosage would result in an administration of compositions comprising 1 to 7.5 grams per day.

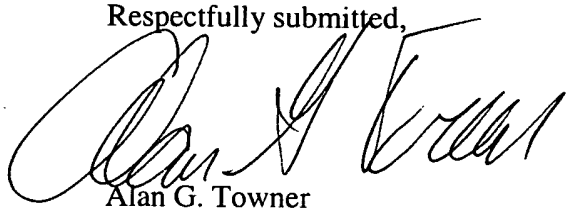
Applicants submit that amended independent Claims 1, 13 and 22 distinguish over the prior art of record. Claim 1 recites a pharmaceutical composition comprising less than 1 gram of a uric acid derivative. Independent Claim 13 recites a dosage form for oral administration comprising a uric acid derivative, said derivative being present in an amount of less than 1 gram and in an amount effective to raise uric acid levels. Independent Claim 22 recites a single oral dose comprising less than 1 gram of a uric acid derivative effective to raise uric acid levels in a human. Basis for the amended claim language is provided in the specification, for example, at page 6, lines 3-5, page 8, lines 12-14 and page 12, lines 25 and 26. By reciting less than 1 gram of a uric acid derivative, Claims 1, 13 and 22 distinguish over the dosage range of 20 to 150 mg/kg/day disclosed by Peeters et al. Accordingly, Claims 1, 13 and 22, and the claims that depend therefrom, are patentable over the prior art of record.

Newly added dependent Claims 34, 35 and 36, which depend from independent Claims 1, 13 and 22, respectively, recite a maximum of 0.5 gram of the uric acid derivative. This maximum amount further distinguishes over Peeters et al.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is submitted that Claims 1-3, 8, 9, 13, 15, 17-19, 21, 22 and 34-36 are patentable over the prior art of record. Accordingly, an early Notice of Allowance of this application is respectfully requested.

In the event that any outstanding matters remain in connection with this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (412) 263-4340 to discuss such matters.

Respectfully submitted,



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